

for the number of entanglements. The number of the entanglements in Sample A was 17/m; the number of entanglements in Sample B was 28/m; and the number of entanglement in Sample C was 17/m.

Then, base fabrics were produced from the resulting three samples. The base fabrics were produced in accordance with the methodology set forth in the Declaration - - - keeping in mind that all of the production parameters were constant between all three samples.

Mr. Okada then conducted a series of tests on the fabrics and provides a Table of the results. This Table shows the identity between total fineness, number of filaments, filament fineness, cross-section profile, degree of flatness, tenacity, elongation and boiling water shrinkage. It then shows the one variable introduced into the yarns, namely the number of entanglements per meter. As mentioned above, they were 17, 28 and 17 for each of Samples A, B and C, respectively. The Table also shows the number of entanglements in the resulting fabric per meter. Those number of entanglements were 0, 5 and 5 for each of Samples A, B and C, respectively.

All of the measured characteristics are also set forth in the table for the Examiner's convenience. Some of the characteristics are the same between the samples, while others are different. What is important, however, is that the number of entanglements in the fabric is different in Sample A relative to the number of entanglements in Samples B and C. The Applicants' claims recite that the number of entanglements in the base fabric is at most 3 per meter. Sample A falls within the claimed requirement, while Samples B and C do not. The result is quite unexpected inasmuch as the horizontal index for the warp-cross section and weft cross-section in Sample A is 0.96 and 0.90, respectively. This is within the Applicants' claimed range of 0.75 to 1.0. In sharp contrast, and quite unexpectedly, the horizontal index for Sample B is 0.72 and 0.73, respectively. Similarly, Sample C has a horizontal index of 0.68 and 0.62, respectively. Both of those ranges are outside of the Applicants' claimed range of 0.75 to 1.0.

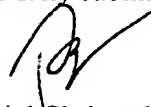
The Applicants accordingly respectfully submit that one skilled in the art would have no reasonable expectation that merely causing the number of entanglements in the fabric to change from at most 3 to more than 3 would have such an effect. This is particularly true given the fact that the other variables are constant or virtually constant between the various samples.

Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that they have compared samples wherein the difference between the two fabrics is the number of entanglements in the yarn as specifically

requested in the rejection and that comparison has revealed significant, unexpected differences in the properties of the resulting fabrics. The Applicants accordingly respectfully submit that they have established unexpected results as requested by the Examiner and respectfully submit that the rejected claims are not obvious over a hypothetical combination of Kami with JP '740. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



T. Daniel Christenbury
Reg. No. 31,750
Attorney for Applicants

TDC/vbm
(215) 656-3381